

C A M P A I G N F O R ACCOUNTABILITY

January 19, 2018

By Email: DPH-OpenRecords@dph.ga.gov

Georgia Department of Public Health
Division of General Counsel
2 Peachtree Street, NW
15th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3186

Re: Georgia Open Records Request

Dear Sir or Madam:

Campaign for Accountability (“CfA”) makes this request for public records, regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics, and including electronic records and information, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, pursuant to Ga. Code Ann. § 50-18-70, *et seq.*

Specifically, CfA seeks copies of all communications, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational materials, or other documents received by representatives of the Department of Public Health from, sent by representatives of the Department of Public Health to, or exchanged between representatives of the Department of Public Health and representatives of Life Resources Georgia. In addition, CfA seeks copies of all communications, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational materials, or other documents received by representatives of the Department of Public Health from, sent by representatives of the Department of Public Health to, or exchanged between representatives of the Department of Public Health and representatives of the Georgia General Assembly or the Office of the Governor regarding the Positive Alternatives for Pregnancy and Parenting program. This request is for records from January 1, 2016 to the present.

By way of background, the Georgia Legislature established the Positive Alternatives for Pregnancy and Parenting program through Senate Bill 308 in 2016,¹ and the budget for fiscal year 2017 included \$2 million for the program.² The purpose of the program is to “develop a state-wide effort that promotes healthy pregnancies and childbirth by awarding grants to nonprofit organizations that provide pregnancy support services.”³ Under the program, the Department of Public Health is authorized to contract with a “contract management agency” that will coordinate and monitor grants with “direct client service providers.”⁴ According to records

¹ S.B. 308, 153d Gen. Assem., Reg. Sess. (Ga. 2016).

² H.B. 751, 153d Gen. Assem., Reg. Sess. (Ga. 2016).

³ Georgia Code Ann. § 31-2A-32.

⁴ *Id.*

CfA obtained pursuant to an earlier open records request, the grant was awarded to Life Resources of Georgia in July 2017.⁵

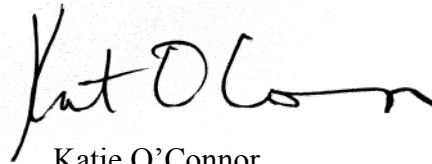
If it is your position that any portion of the records requested is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Georgia Code Ann. § 50-18-72(a), please provide a written notice indicating the basis for that determination. Georgia Code Ann. § 50-18-71(d). If a requested record contains material that is exempt from disclosure as well as material that is not exempt, please produce the portions of the record that are not exempt. Georgia Code Ann. § 50-18-72(b).

CfA is a non-profit organization and seeks the requested information primarily to benefit the general public. Furnishing copies of these records will allow CfA to inform and educate the public about state funding received by a private organization. Accordingly, CfA requests that the information be provided without charge. If a fee waiver is not available, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$200.

Please respond to this request within 3 business days of receipt, as required by Georgia Code Ann. § 50-18-71(b)(1)(A), either by producing the requested records or providing a timeline for when the records will be produced. If possible, please email the records to me at koconnor@campaignforaccountability.org. If the records are mailed, please send them to: Campaign for Accountability, 611 Pennsylvania Ave S.E., #337, Washington, D.C. 20003.

If you are unable to meet this statutory mandate, foresee any problems in releasing the requested records in whole or in part, or have any questions about this request, please contact me at 202-780-5750. Finally, I welcome the opportunity to discuss with you whether and to what extent this request can be narrowed or modified to better enable the Department of Public Health to process it. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katie O'Connor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Katie" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "O'Connor".

Katie O'Connor
Legal Counsel
Campaign for Accountability

⁵ Georgia Department of Public Health Contract for Services, Contract Number 40500-040-17172496, August 2, 2017.